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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1179  
By Armstrong

A RESOLUTION to honor the Wiley-Francis Family Reunion.

WHEREAS, families and their respective histories of struggle with adversities, persistence in pursuit of goals and dreams, and their triumphs and tragedies are an integral part of the tapestry of American history; and

WHEREAS, the family unit is the basis of American culture and the foundation of an orderly and productive society; the framework for mutual support that the family affords its members is essential to a healthy national culture; and

WHEREAS, the Wiley-Francis Family will hold their 2002 Family Reunion in Pigeon Forge on July 19-21; and

WHEREAS, the Wiley-Francis Family Reunion was founded in a chance meeting at a bank between Chris Woolen and James Wiley; after questioning why their distinguished family did not hold family reunions, Mr. Woolen and Mr. Wiley decided then and there to establish the Wiley-Francis Family Reunion; and

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WHEREAS, committed to preserving their family's rich heritage, Chris Woolen and James Wiley began immediately telephoning other family members, setting the foundation for the first Wiley-Francis Reunion, which was held in Detroit, Michigan on July 5, 1986; and

WHEREAS, connecting family members who reside in more than fourteen different states in the United States of America, the Wiley-Francis Family Reunion includes family members from Georgia, Tennessee, Ohio, Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Michigan, Kentucky, California, Illinois, Indiana, North Carolina, Maryland, and Delaware; and

WHEREAS, a humble and faithful family, the Wiley-Francis family is most grateful for the blessings their family has received from God; and

WHEREAS, possessing a strong and mighty family tree, the Wiley-Francis Family recognizes the importance of the fine traditions handed down from their forefathers, and is ever mindful of their legacy to their children; and

WHEREAS, the Wiley-Francis Family Reunion is sure to be a time for joyous recollection and for renewing old friendships, as well as building new ones; and

WHEREAS, this legislative body is proud to recognize such a vital family and to applaud their contributions to this State and Nation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor the Wiley-Francis Family, commend their loyalty, love for each other, and joy in their heritage, and extend to them our best wishes for this year's celebration and all future reunions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.